

# Manchester Airport Departure Routes Information Pack

## WESTERLY DEPARTURES IN EASTERLY OPERATIONS (ROUTE ASMIM1S)

Flying over: Heald Green / Didsbury / Sale /  
Streford / Urmston

This document explains how we operate and provides some  
information about the number of aircraft and passengers  
currently flying from Manchester Airport.



## ABOUT YOUR AIRPORT



Manchester Airport officially opened on 25 June 1938 and is today owned by the 10 Councils of Greater Manchester and Industry Funds Management (IFM), with four airports in the group.



- 6411 volunteer hours in the community in 2016/2017.
- Our Airport Academy helped 469 people into work on our site.
- Community Trust Fund supporting community groups with over £3million in grants since 1997.

1939 saw 7600 passengers per year...

...today it's grown to

28M

2017 Manchester Airport joined the list of top 20 European airports.

FLYING TO 210 DESTINATIONS



in 60 countries including China, USA, the Middle East and Europe.

IN 2001  
A SECOND  
RUNWAY  
WAS ADDED



The Airport supports the employment of 45000 jobs in the region with 24500 people directly employed on our site.

Supporting over 8000 children in education every year. Manchester Airport teacher resources for key stages 1,2 and 3 are available at [www.magworld.com/education](http://www.magworld.com/education).

Manchester Airport – the largest outside the South East – delivers

£1.7bn

in the North West economy.

WITH THE  
INFRASTRUCTURE

FOR OVER 70 AIRLINES

OVER 100 STANDS



AND 200  
ON-SITE  
OPERATORS

## HOW WE OPERATE

### USE OF RUNWAYS

Manchester Airport has two runways. We use both runways during the daytime, but planning permission does not allow us to use Runway 2 between 10pm and 6am, unless we are doing maintenance on Runway 1.

As the number of flights has increased, we need to extend the times during which we use both runways. This will happen gradually from April until 9 July 2018. The changes will reduce delays and increase efficiency. For more information about this see our web page at [www.manchesterairport.co.uk/dualrunwayuse](http://www.manchesterairport.co.uk/dualrunwayuse).

We have a Night Noise Policy which means that we do operate at night, but flights are restricted. You can read more about our Night Noise Policy at [www.manchesterairport.co.uk/nightnoise](http://www.manchesterairport.co.uk/nightnoise).

DAYS	TIMES WHEN TWO RUNWAYS USED	
	Summer season 2 April to 9 July 2018	From 9 July 2018
MONDAY TO FRIDAY	6.30am to 10.30am and 1pm to 8pm	6am to 9pm
SATURDAY	6.30am to 10.30am and 1pm to 4pm	6am to 4pm
SUNDAY	1pm to 5pm	6am to 9.30am and 1pm to 9pm

### LANDING PATHS

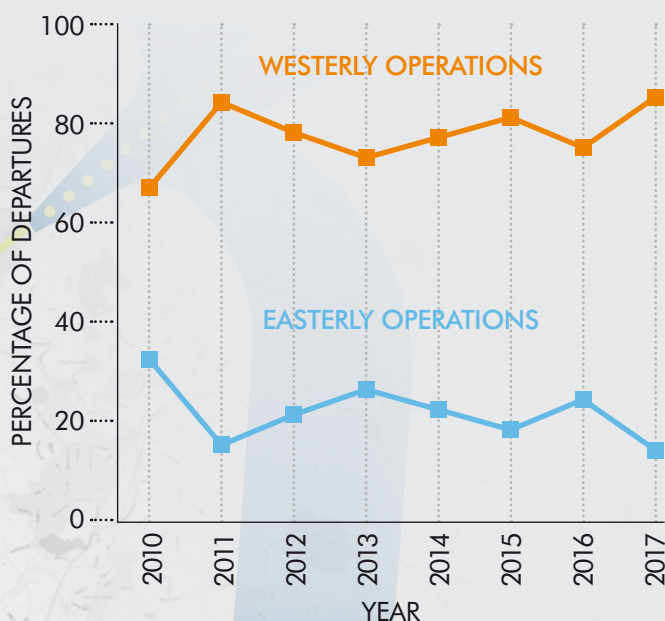
RUNWAY 1  
RUNWAY 2

### RUNWAY DIRECTION

For safety reasons, aircraft must land and take off into the wind. At Manchester Airport the wind usually blows from the West, meaning aircraft approach from the East (over Stockport and Heald Green) and take off to the West (towards Knutsford). This is known as 'westerly operations'.

Sometimes the wind direction changes and moves to the East. In this case, aircraft approach from the West (over Knutsford) and take off to the East (over Heald Green and Stockport). This is known as 'easterly operations'.

On average, between 70% and 80% of our departures each year will be westerly operations. In 2017, 85% of flights were westerly operations and 15% of flights were easterly operations.



The wind direction may change several times in a day, so we may change our direction of operations to reflect this. The table above shows the percentage of movements in each direction over the last eight years.

## ROUTES DEPARTING TO THE EAST

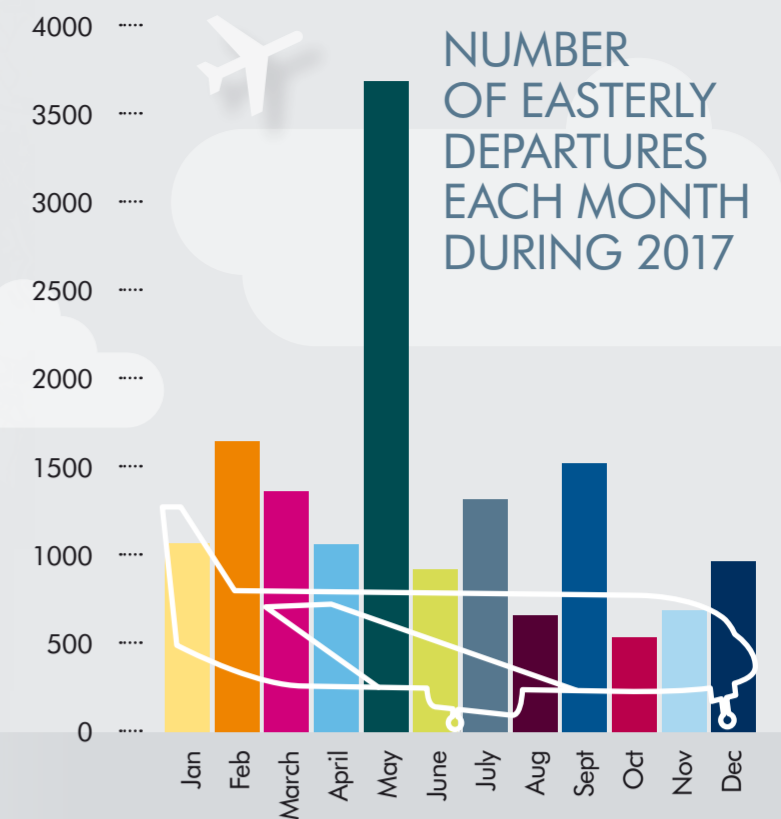
- There are three routes with easterly departures shown on this diagram. These are used for an average of 22.5% of our flights. In 2017 there were 4638 departures on the ASMIM1S route – 30% of all easterly departures.
- Our information is based on the most recent complete year, which was 2017, and our busiest month in that year, May.
- The following graphics focus on the ASMIM1S route travelling to the USA and Scotland.

ASMIM1S  
30% 29%

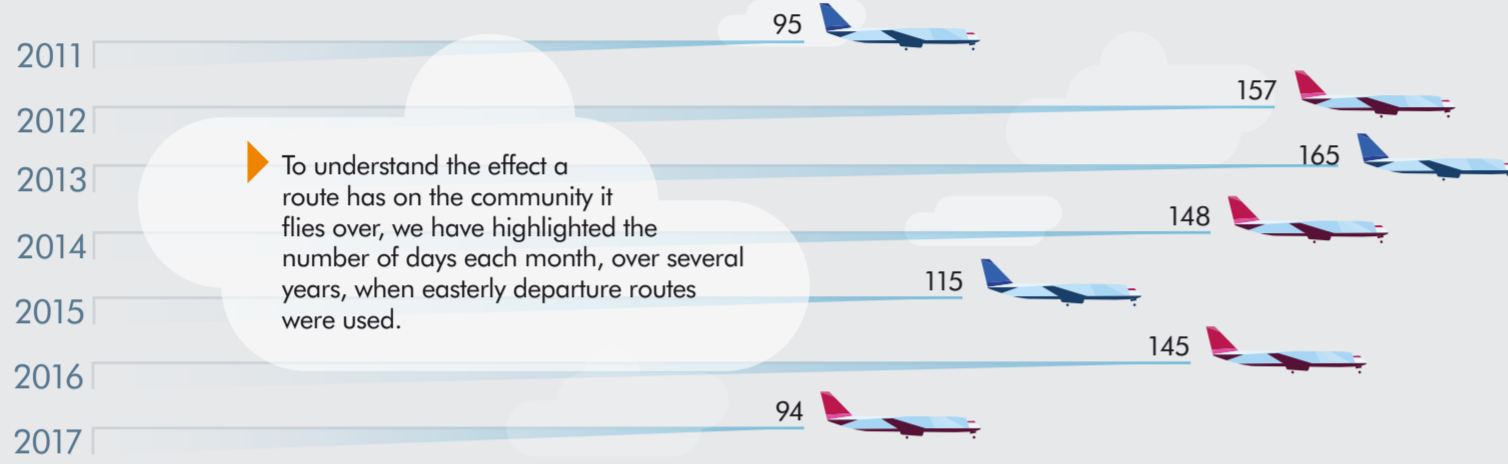
DESIG1S  
37% 37%

LISTO2S  
33% 34%

RUNWAY USE (%)  
Actual summer 2017  
Predicted summer 2018



## NUMBER OF DAYS EASTERLY DEPARTURES USED BY YEAR



To understand the effect a route has on the community it flies over, we have highlighted the number of days each month, over several years, when easterly departure routes were used.

TOTAL NUMBER OF DAYS EASTERLY OPERATIONS WERE USED BETWEEN 2010 AND 2017

1113



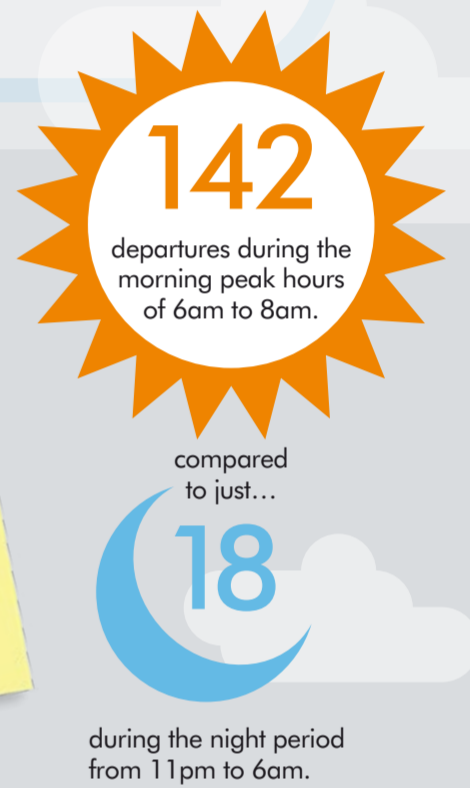
May was our busiest month in 2017 with the runway used for  
**1114**  
departures using the ASMIM1S route.

The direction of landing and taking off depends on the wind direction.



During May there were...

The maximum number of departures on a single day was just...  
**102**



## POSITION OF AIRCRAFT ALONG ROUTE ASMIM1S

Currently aircraft navigate using navigational equipment on the ground close to and around our runways. A series of instructions will navigate the aircraft along the whole route (for example, to fly straight ahead for a set distance and then turn at a particular point to a compass bearing of...).

The accuracy with which an aircraft navigates depends on the following.

- The size of the aircraft
- The weight of the aircraft
- Weather conditions
- How the pilot interprets instructions

The map opposite shows the general position and spread of flights using the ASMIM1S route in May 2017.

At the beginning of the departure, the aircraft is dark blue. As it becomes higher above the ground, the colour changes to light blue (3000 feet) and finally to green at 5000 feet, which is the highest point at which the aircraft must stay on the route.

## WILL THINGS CHANGE IN THE FUTURE?

### AIRCRAFT

Over time, airlines will buy new aircraft. The improved engines are quieter and more efficient. The new sleeker plane is able to climb quicker and with less friction, significantly reducing noise and emissions. All of this is beneficial to communities that the aircraft fly over.

Aircraft using the ASMIM1S route range from small 10-seat aircraft up to the larger 400-seat aircraft. The most common is the 100- to 200-seat aircraft, which accounts for 61% of all flights.

It is likely there will be changes in the future due to:

- a national policy, led by the CAA, to reorganise airspace for improved efficiency and maintaining safety;
- satellite navigation replacing navigational aids on the ground, enabling aircraft to fly more accurately following the centre line of the departure route on each departure; and
- improved technology on board new aircraft, offering the opportunity for greater efficiency and reduced noise.

Guidance on how airports should manage change was issued by the CAA in December 2017, in a document called Airspace Design CAP1616. This is available on the CAA website.

### AIRSPACE

A review of upper airspace (above 24500 feet) is taking place. This will reposition some of the main airways over the UK to increase efficiency and improve the customer experience with less time in hold, more timely arrivals and departures and reduced emissions. This review process will also enable us to create the best possible design to make sure we can achieve Manchester Airport's potential by securing further routes to destinations around the world. This will create more jobs and boost the region's economy.

The changes relate to three levels of airspace.

- High level – over 7000 feet where aircraft are travelling to or from their final destination
- Arrival – below 7000 feet heading to the final destination airport
- Departure – between 0 and 7000 feet leaving the airport to join the high level routes

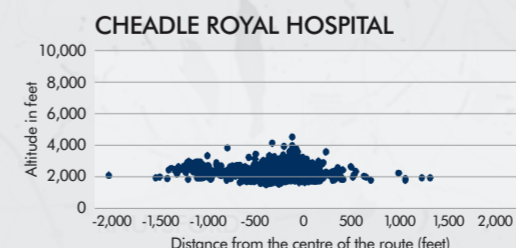
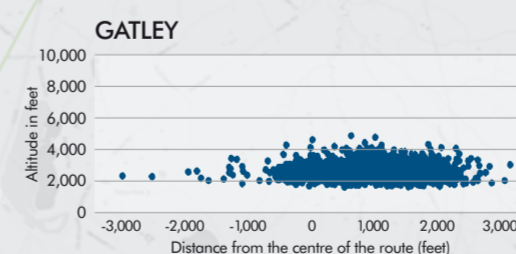
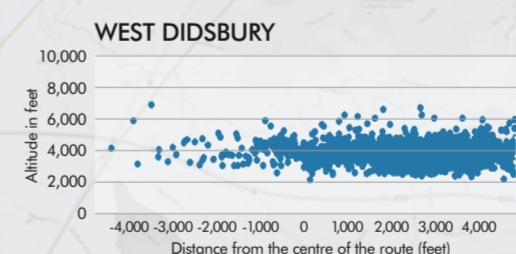
### ARRIVALS

Aircraft currently approach the airport they are landing at and wait for an instruction to land. Ideally, the approach is a continuous descent to land as this is fuel efficient and quiet.

If aircraft need to wait, they currently go into a 'holding pattern' away from the airfield. As a part of this project, NATS will examine if this is the best way to control aircraft approaching the airfield before they land.

There is more information about arriving aircraft in our arrivals data sheet [www.manchesterairport/runwaydatasheet](http://www.manchesterairport/runwaydatasheet).

The graphics below show the height of aircraft on the ASMIM1S route at the places marked on the route. They show the concentration of aircraft in the centre of the route and the height above sea level.



WESTERLY / EASTERLY

WEST DIDSBURY

GATLEY

CHEADLE ROYAL

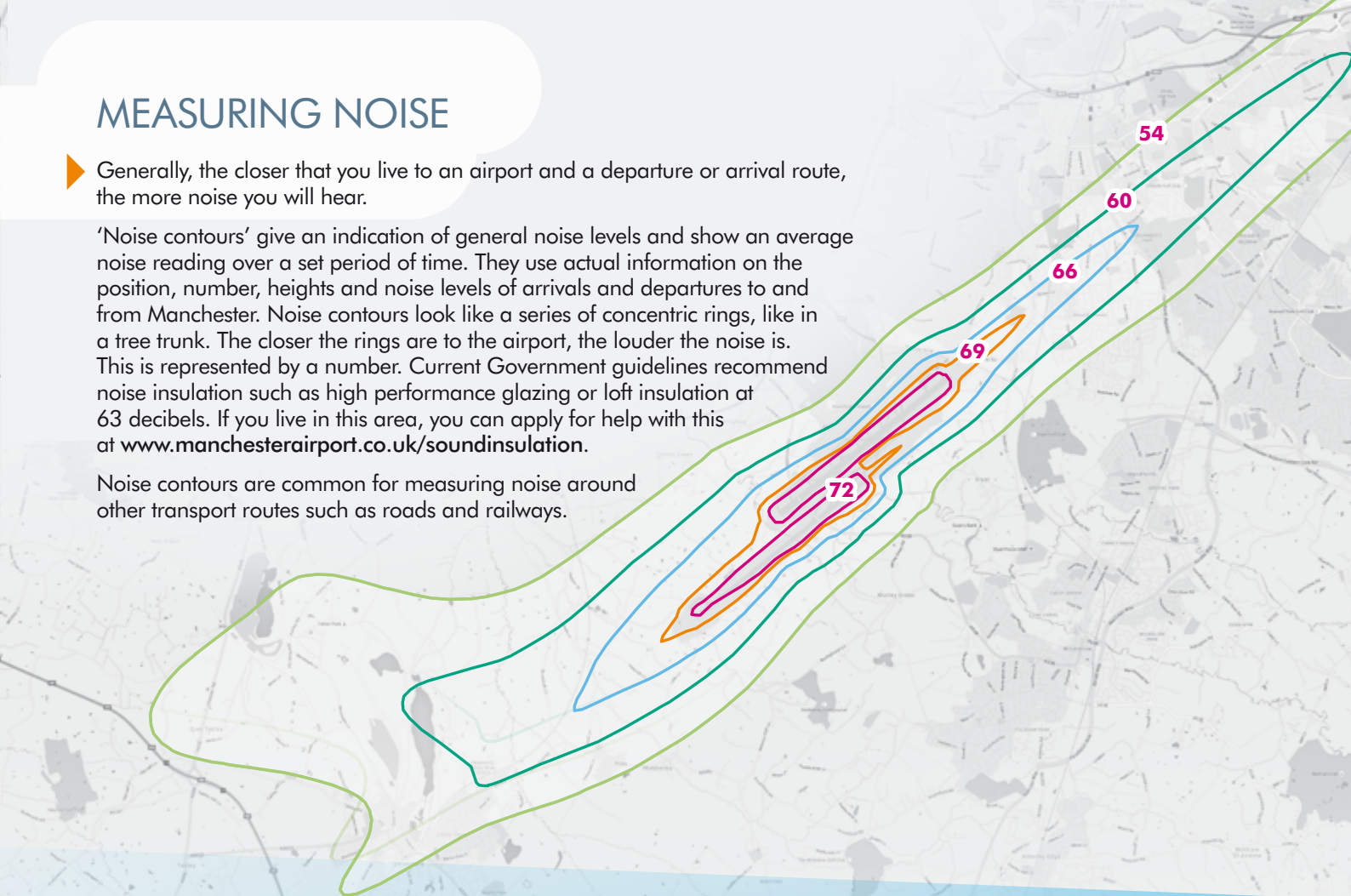
0 to 2999 feet  
3000 to 4999 feet  
5000 or more feet  
... ASMIM1S

# MEASURING NOISE

- ▶ Generally, the closer that you live to an airport and a departure or arrival route, the more noise you will hear.

'Noise contours' give an indication of general noise levels and show an average noise reading over a set period of time. They use actual information on the position, number, heights and noise levels of arrivals and departures to and from Manchester. Noise contours look like a series of concentric rings, like in a tree trunk. The closer the rings are to the airport, the louder the noise is. This is represented by a number. Current Government guidelines recommend noise insulation such as high performance glazing or loft insulation at 63 decibels. If you live in this area, you can apply for help with this at [www.manchesterairport.co.uk/soundinsulation](http://www.manchesterairport.co.uk/soundinsulation).

Noise contours are common for measuring noise around other transport routes such as roads and railways.



## WANT TO KNOW MORE?

- ▶ There is a booklet like this one for each of our departure and arrival routes. Extra information is already available on our website in a range of formats including films and downloadable information sheets. You can see them all at [www.manchesterairport.co.uk/runwaydatasheet](http://www.manchesterairport.co.uk/runwaydatasheet).

We will need to consult widely about changes to airspace in the future.

If you would like to be on a mailing list to make sure you receive information direct, please email [community.relations@manairport.co.uk](mailto:community.relations@manairport.co.uk)

If you would like to talk to us you could:

- phone our Freephone number (08000 967967);
- send an email to [community.relations@manairport.co.uk](mailto:community.relations@manairport.co.uk); or
- come to an outreach session (details are on our website).

You can watch aircraft movements and look at heights and positions over the ground using **webtrak**, which is on our website at [www.manchesterairport.co.uk/webtrak](http://www.manchesterairport.co.uk/webtrak).

